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In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 11, and please add claim 20, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences to establish ~~non-intimate relationships~~, the steps comprising:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored ~~non-intimate~~ profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing ~~non-intimate~~ profile information from said subscriber into said database;

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers to form at least one group based on similarities between said subscriber's profile information and said fellow ~~subscriber's~~ subscribers' profile information wherein all of the subscribers' profiles in said group are similar to each other; and

~~displaying~~ communicating said subscribers of said group ~~of to~~ said subscribers.

2. (Original) The method state in claim 1, wherein said step of registering profile information further comprises the steps of:

entering biographical information of said subscriber.

3. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein said step of registering profile information further comprises the steps of:

entering personal preferences of said subscriber.

4. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein the step of grouping said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

utilizing an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber's profile information and said fellow subscriber's profile information, wherein preferences are assigned integer values concatenated to form a lookup key, and used to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between two preferences; and

summing similarity values for all profile preferences to create a final similarity total for said subscribers.

5. (Original) The method stated in claim 4, wherein said step of utilizing an algorithm further comprises the steps of:

requiring that the similarity values between subscribers exceeds a threshold value.

6. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

grouping said groups into composite groups based on similarities between said group's profile information.

7. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein said step of grouping said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

utilizing said subscriber's own matching criteria for establishing an acceptable level of similarities between said subscribers and said fellow subscribers for forming said group.

8. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein said step of displaying said groups of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

selecting meeting times for said group; and
notifying said subscribers in said group of said meeting times.

9. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein said step of displaying said group of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

posting group messages for said groups.

10. (Original) The method stated in claim 1, wherein said step of displaying said group of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

posting real-time dialog between said subscribers of said group.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for grouping subscribers by common preferences to establish non-intimate relationships, the steps comprising:

providing a subscriber access to a computerized database having stored ~~non-~~
~~intimate~~ profile information from fellow subscribers;

registering and storing ~~non-intimate~~ profile information, including biographical
information and personal preferences, of said subscriber into said database;

~~grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers by applying
an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and said fellow
subscribers, wherein preference disclosed in said subscriber's profile information are
assigned integer values concatenated to form a lookup key, and used to access an entry in
a table containing the corresponding similarity value between the two preferences;~~

~~summing similarity values for all profile preferences to create a final similarity
total for said subscribers; and~~

~~displaying said group of said subscribers.~~

entering a group selection criteria that identifies characteristics and interests
which all subscribers must have to be included in a candidate group;

creating a candidate list of subscribers based on the group selection criteria;

grouping said subscribers from said candidate list with at least two fellow
subscribers to form at least one group based on similarities between said subscriber's profile
information and said fellow subscribers' profile information wherein all of the subscribers'
profiles in said group are similar to each other; and

providing capability whereby said subscriber selects final group members from
the candidate list.

12. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, wherein said step of utilizing an algorithm further comprises the steps of:

requiring that the similarity values between subscribers exceed a threshold value.

13. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

grouping said groups into composite groups based on similarities between said group's profile information.

14. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, wherein said step of grouping said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

utilizing said subscriber's own matching criteria for establishing an acceptable level of similarity between said subscribers for forming said group.

15. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, wherein said step of displaying said group of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

selecting meeting times for said group; and

notifying said subscribers in said group of said meeting times.

16. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, wherein said step of displaying said group of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

posting group messages for said groups.

17. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, wherein said step of displaying said group of said subscribers further comprises the steps of:

posting real-time dialog between said subscribers in said group.

18. (Original) The method stated in claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

deleting and adding said fellow subscribers from said group.

19. (Original) The computerized method stated in claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

deleting and adding said groups from said composite groups.

20. (New) The method stated in claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

grouping said subscriber with at least two of said fellow subscribers by applying an algorithm to determine a level of similarity between said subscriber and said fellow subscribers, wherein preference disclosed in said subscriber's profile information are assigned integer values concatenated to form a lookup key, and used to access an entry in a table containing the corresponding similarity value between the two preferences;

summing similarity values for all profile preferences to create a final similarity total for said subscribers; and

displaying said group of said subscribers.